

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 ITC-01

CU-02 OES-03 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01

USIA-06 EURE-00 /107 W

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P R 171713Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9933

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USDEL MTN GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

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O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, UK, UNESCO

SUBJECT: EC REGULATION 1798/75: CUSTOMS DUTIES ON
EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, AND CULTURAL MATERIALS

REF: (A) LONDON J128, (B) USEC 1775

1. EMBASSY HAS HEARD THAT EC COMMISSION IS ABOUT TO
RESPOND TO US COMPLAINTS AND WILL TAKE FORMAL POSITION
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THAT SINCE THEIR ACCESSION TO ROME TREATY MEMBER STATES

SHOULD BE CONSIDERED A SINGLE ENTITY UNDER FLORENCE AGREEMENT. IT APPEARS THE COMMUNITY'S INTENT IS TO STICK WITH ITS LEGAL BRIEF AND SIDESTEP QUESTION OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY OBLIGATIONS TO THE US AND OTHER THIRD COUNTRIES.

2. OUR CHECKS WITH DEPARTMENT OF TRADE SOURCES ON STATUS OF REGULATION 1798/75 INDICATE THAT AT MARCH 15 MEETING OF ECONOMIC QUESTIONS GROUP A COMMISSION REPRESENTATIVE READ A DRAFT REPLY TO USEMARCHE. DRAFT WAS READ RAPIDLY IN FRENCH BUT IT FOLLOWED THE GENERAL OUTLINE OF COMMISSION LEGAL BRIEF. APPARENTLY MEMBER STATE REPRESENTATIVES WERE TOLD THAT DRAFT WAS BEING READ TO THEM FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY. THERE WAS LITTLE, IF ANY, DISCUSSION AT THIS MEETING OF US CONCERNs.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF LEGAL PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY'S ADHERING TO THE PROPOSED EXTENSIONS OF FLORENCE AGREEMENT WHEN IT WAS NOT A PARTY TO THE ORIGINAL AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, THIS DID NOT SEEM TO BE A BARRIER TO PROCEEDING AND OUR SOURCES SAY REPLY SHOULD BE GOING OUT TO US SHORTLY.

ARMSTRONG

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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